AF

Docket No. JJI0049USCNT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Larry B. Gray et al.

Serial No. : 09/665,668 Art Unit: 3731

Filed : September 20, 2000 Examiner: V.Q. Bui

For : AXIALLY FLEXIBLE STENT

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February 2, 2006
(Date)

Paul A. Coletti
Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative

/Paul A. Coletti/
(Signature)

February 2, 2006
(Date of Signature)

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the "Order Returning Undocketed Appeal to Examiner," dated January 27, 2006, the Applicants submit a new Appendix A.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX A

21. (Previously Amended) A stent having first and second ends with an intermediate section therebetween, the stent further having a longitudinal axis, and both an unexpanded and expanded configuration comprising:

(a) a plurality of longitudinally disposed struts, wherein each strut defines a wave along the longitudinal axis; the spatial frequency of the wave associated with each of the struts being different in a first end region lying proximate to one of said ends in comparison to the spatial frequency of the wave in the intermediate section; and

(b) a plurality of links for maintaining the struts in a tubular structure;

wherein said frequency is greater in said first end region.

22. (Previously Amended) A stent having first and second ends with an intermediate section therebetween and a longitudinal axis, and both an unexpanded and expanded configuration comprising:

said unexpanded configuration comprises a plurality of longitudinally disposed wave-shaped struts; and

a plurality of circumferential links for maintaining the struts in a tubular structure at a plurality of locations along said strut, wherein said strut is connected to an adjacent strut by a separate link, each link being axially displaced from any circumferentially adjacent link.